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Mexico Bans Poultry from 2 Kentucky Counties Due to Avian Influenza

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Policy and Program Announcements

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Report Highlights:

On April 7, 2009, the Government of Mexico informed USDA that imports of live birds, fresh eggs, poultry meat products and by products chilled and /or frozen from Edmonson and Grayson counties of the State of Kentucky are prohibited due to detection of low path avian influenza (LPAI) in those counties. Cooked products are exempt.

General Information:

MEXICO BANS POULTRY IMPORTS FROM 2 COUNTIES OF KENTUCKY STATE

The Mexican Veterinary Service (SENASICA) has banned the imports of poultry and poultry products from the counties of Grayson and Edmonson Kentucky after a confirmed outbreak of low pathogenic avian influenza type H7N9 within a commercial poultry flock.

SENASICA communicated to USDA, on April 7, 2009, the ban of imports of poultry and poultry products from the counties of Grayson and Edmonson Kentucky effective April 8, 2009. SENASICA banned the imports of poultry and poultry products as outlined in the Mexican regulations NOM 044-ZOO-1995 "Campaign against Avian Influenza" .

Products subjected to a thermal treatment (cooked) are exempt from this prohibition.

REGULATIONS FOR POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS EXPORTS

The table 1 summarizes some of the regulations that are currently being implemented by the GOM for U.S. live poultry and poultry meat exports.

Table 1. Mexico: Current Import Regulations for Poultry and Poultry Products.

ITEM	RAW POULTRY FOR RETAIL & FOR FURTHER PROCESSING	FULLY COOKED POULTRY MEAT AND EGG PRODUCTS	TABLE, SPF AND HATCHING EGGS	LIVE BIRDS
Export Status from All U.S. States 1/	YES ^③	YES	YES 1 ③	YES ^③
Required Language On Cleaning And Disinfection Of Trucks	YES	NO	YES	YES
Required Sealing Of Trucks At Point Of Origin	NO	NO	NO	YES
Required Language that Product is Fit for Human Consumption and Freely Marketed in the U.S.	YES	NO	②	②
Agar Gel or ELISA Test Required	③	NO	③	③
Certification Requirements On Exotic Newcastle Disease ①	YES	YES	YES	YES
1/ These imports are only approved to proceed to Federal Inspected Plants (TIF) meat processing facilities authorized by SAGARPA. It remains prohibited the import of products and poultry by-products original of Arkansas, E.U.A. that come from birds sacrificed between May 10 until July 14, 2008.				
① Boxes of table eggs as well as SPF eggs must show the stamp of the competent authority.				
② SPF, hatching eggs and live birds should be freely marketed in the U.S.				
③ When a plant and farm/flock is registered under the National Poultry Improvement Plant (NPIP), the Agar Gel or ELISA test will not be required; otherwise the tests will be required by SAGARPA.				

④ Exotic Newcastle Disease statement for meat, meat products and by products. - “That the product comes from flocks that have a monitoring program of 70 birds that began after 12 days of age, using viral isolation tests and identification of velogenic strains through a test that indicates intracerebral pathogenicity in chicks of one day of age and that is carried out for each lot that is delivered for slaughter, obtaining negative results for Velogenic Newcastle disease, or that comes from a country free of Velogenic Newcastle Disease.”

⑤ Since April 8, 2009, imports of live birds, fresh eggs, poultry meat products and by products chilled and /or frozen from Edmonson and Grayson counties of the State of Kentucky are prohibited by the Mexican Government Authorities.

For additional information regarding poultry meat and egg products exports to Mexico see the FSIS Export Library at

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations & Policies/Mexico Requirements/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations%20&%20Policies/Mexico_Requirements/index.asp)

(Export Requirements for meat and poultry products).

The Mexican phytozanitary requeriments sheets (HRZ's) for each kind of import product to Mexico are available at

<http://148.245.191.4/zooweb/inicio.aspx>

Source: SAGARPA/SENASICA/Animal Health Directorate.